



PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: NR16MS.001

Pursuant to Chapter 0400-40-07 of the Department's rules, the proposed activity described below has been submitted for approval under an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit and §401 Water Quality Certification. This notice is intended to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this application.

APPLICANT: Mr. Trevor Martin, Environmental Program Manager
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
Land Reclamation Section
3711 Middlebrook Pike
Knoxville, TN 37921

LOCATION: Mossy Grove Reclamation Project
Petit Lane
Wartburg, TN
Latitude: 36.05988, Longitude: -84.51985

PROJECT DESCRIPTION/PURPOSE: The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation – Land Reclamation Section has applied for a new Individual Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) for a proposed abandoned mine reclamation project within the Crooked Fork watershed. The primary purpose of the project is to eliminate hazards to human health and safety. Secondly, this reclamation project will eliminate some sediment sources and restore hydrology and aquatic habitat that have been altered by pre-law mining and abandoned mine lands. The affected features are tributaries to Crooked Fork which is listed as impaired due to physical substrate habitat alterations and siltation.

This reclamation project consists of twenty-seven and a half acres (27.5) of abandoned surface coal mines to be cleared, grubbed and graded to eliminate hazardous highwalls and impoundments. The reclamation will include the establishment of positive drainage, contemporaneous revegetation of the site, treatment (as needed) of controlled discharge, and backfilling of five water-filled abandoned surface mine strip pits. A total of 4,900 feet (Area 1 - 850 ft.; Area 2 – 1,250 ft.; Area 3 – 2,800 ft.) of surface channel will be constructed across the reclaimed areas to restore hydrologic connectivity within the watershed. Stream enhancement activities will include planting native tree and shrub species to develop a 50 foot riparian zone along these surface channels.

At Area 1, reclamation plans call for backfilling an existing abandoned strip pit (Pit 1) and an existing agricultural impoundment with adjacent spoil material. A wet weather conveyance will be restored as an 850 foot grass-lined channel across the reclaimed pit area to collect and convey surface drainage. Enhancement activities for this work area will include the development of a 50

foot wide riparian zone, with the restored channel banks to be planted with native tree and shrub seedlings

At Area 2, the existing rock lined drain will be reworked and covered to create an Anoxic Limestone Drain (ALD) to treat existing Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) seepage. To restore the hydrologic connectivity of the area, two sections of grass-lined channels totaling 1,100 feet will be constructed across the reclaimed area to collect and convey surface flow. The ALD will outlet into the primary surface channel enhancing the stream's hydrology. An additional 150 feet of rock-lined surface channel will carry the surface flow from the reclaimed area. The use of rock in this section is required to prevent the stream from head cutting and eroding the backfill material due to the steeper slope of this segment. Enhancement activities for this work area will include the development of a 50 foot wide riparian zone with the channel banks to be planted with native tree and shrub species.

At Area 3, reclamation plans call for backfilling Pits 2, 3, 4, and 5 with adjacent spoil material. An ALD (150 x 3 x 3 ft) will be constructed at Pit 2 to collect and passively treat the water for acidity. Two surface channels totaling 2,800 feet will be constructed across the reclaimed pit areas to collect and convey surface drainage. The first channel with a length of 1,200 feet will convey surface drainage across reclaimed Pits 2, 3, and 4 to the northeast. The second channel with a length of 1,600 feet will convey surface drainage across reclaimed Pits 4 and 5 to the southwest. The two surface channels will be grass-lined except in steeply sloped sections where rock will be used to protect the backfill material from cutting. This will have the effect of restoring a natural watershed break where pre-law mining activities have altered the hydrology of the site. Enhancement activities for this work area will include the development of a 50 foot wide riparian zone with the channel banks to be planted with native tree and shrub species.

DEGRADATION: In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 0400-40-03-.06), the Division has determined that the proposed activities will not result in degradation to water quality.

WATERSHED/WATERBODY DESCRIPTION: Tributary of Crooked Fork is in the Upper Tennessee River Basin – Emory watershed (HUC 06010208). Tributaries of Crooked Fork are not classified or designated as Exceptional Tennessee Waters (ETW).

Stream Name/ID #: Tributary of Crooked Fork TN06010208004_2000

Impacts: Restoration and/or enhancement

Ecoregion: Cumberland Plateau Ecoregion 68a

Designated Use
fish and aquatic life

Use Support
Not Supporting

Causes
Physical substrate habitat alterations
Sedimentation/siltation

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Dan Murray and Josh Frazier

FACTORS CONSIDERED: In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the Division will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. In making this decision, a determination will be made regarding the lost value of the resource compared to the value of any proposed mitigation. The Division shall consider practicable alternatives to the alteration. The Division shall also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to the water resource, and adverse impact to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

COMMENTING: Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced. Send all written comments to the Division's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

PUBLIC HEARING: Interested persons may request in writing that the Division hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that a hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the Division will hold a public hearing. Send all public hearing requests to the Division's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

APPEAL: Please be advised that a petition for permit appeal may be filed, pursuant to *T.C.A. Section 69-3-105, subsection (i)* and Rule 0400-40-05, by the permit applicant or by any aggrieved person who participated in the public comment period announced by this notice. This petition must be filed within THIRTY (30) DAYS after public notice of the issuance of the permit. The petition must specify what provisions are being appealed and the basis for the appeal. It should be addressed to the technical secretary of the Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas. A copy of the filing should also be sent to TDEC's Office of General Counsel. The mailing addresses follow:

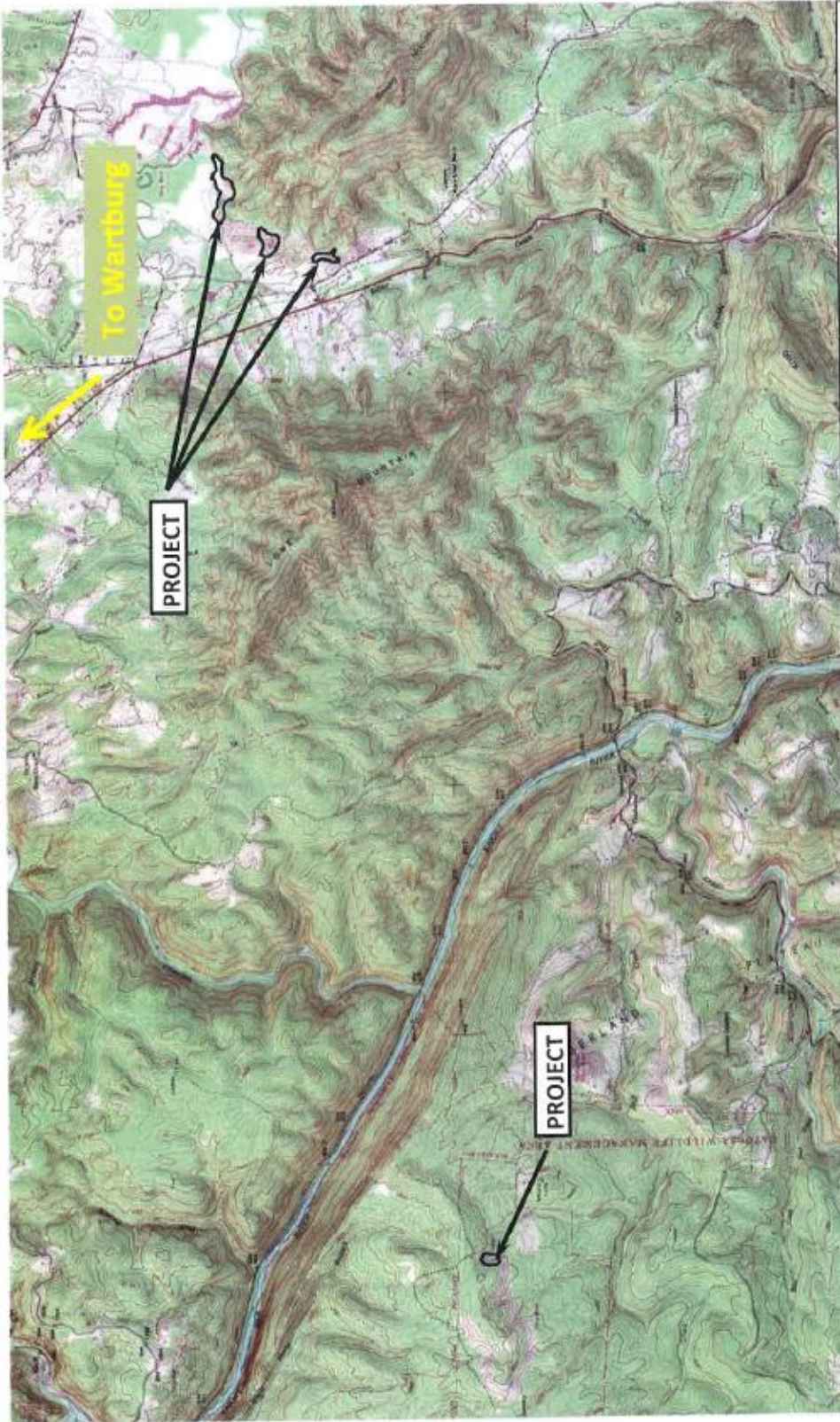
Tisha Calabrese Benton
Acting Technical Secretary
Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas
William R. Snodgrass TN Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 12th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-1102

Mr. E. Joseph Sanders, Chief Counsel
Office of General Counsel
William R. Snodgrass TN Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-1102

Any hearing would be in accordance with T.C.A. §§69-3-110 and 4-5-301 et seq.

FILE REVIEW: Copies of the permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps are available online on the *Water Resources Permit Data Viewer* available at <http://tn.gov/environment/article/tdec-dataviewers>. The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are also available at the Division's address (listed below) for review and/or copying.

Kara Blevins (865-594-5460)
Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Water Resources - Mining Section
3711 Middlebrook Pike
Knoxville, TN 37921-6538



MOSSY GROVE RECLAMATION PROJECT

MORGAN COUNTY

CAMP AUSTIN QUAD (122 SE)

N 36.05988, W 084.51985



MOSSY GROVE PLAN VIEW

SCALE 1"=600'

LEGEND	
	ROAD LIMITS
	STREAMLINE
	WATER-FILLED PIT
	PAVED ROAD
	IMPROVED ROAD
	SALT FENCE
	WET-GRAVELLED DITCH
	PIPELINE

